

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

---

---



## ***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA***

***San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney  
Karen P. Hewitt***

---

---

***For Further Information, Contact: Assistant U.S. Attorney Alessandra P. Serano (619) 557-7084***

---

---

***For Immediate Release***

### **NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY** - October 3, 2008

United States Attorney Karen P. Hewitt announced that Juan Carlos Chimal-Moran was arraigned today in federal court in San Diego before Magistrate Judge William McCurine, Jr. on a two-count indictment charging him with Sexual Exploitation of a Child and Transportation of Visual Depiction of Minors Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 2251 and 2252.

The defendant was previously arraigned on a criminal complaint that charged him with sexual exploitation of a child; the complaint was superseded by the indictment. According to court documents, on July 17, 2008, the manager of a local store called the San Diego Police Department (SDPD) to report that an unknown person dropped off a roll of undeveloped film in the after-hours drop box. The film was developed and discovered to contain approximately 34 photos of an Hispanic female minor, approximately 6 to 10 years old, engaged in a series of sexual poses and sex acts. On July 21, 2008, SDPD was notified that a person, later identified as Juan Carlos Chimal-Moran, attempted to retrieve the film. Chimal was detained at that time.

The defendant is scheduled next to be in court on November 10, 2008 at 2:00 p.m., before United States District Judge Roger T. Benitez, for a motions hearing.

This case stems from an investigation by the San Diego Police Department and assisted by the San Diego Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, whose members include the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the San Diego Police Department, the San Diego County Sheriff's Department, the Chula Vista Police Department, the United States Attorney's Office, the San Diego District Attorney's Office, the United States Postal Inspection Service, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, the United States Marshals Service, the Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory, the Defense Criminal Investigative Service, and the El Cajon Police Department.

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov).

**DEFENDANT**

**Case Number: 08CR3264BEN**

JUAN CARLOS CHIMAL-MORAN

**SUMMARY OF CHARGES**

Title 18, United States Code, Section 2251(c) (Sexual Exploitation of a Child) - Maximum Penalties: A minimum mandatory 15 years' incarceration and a maximum of 30 years' incarceration, \$250,000 fine, a minimum of five years and up to a lifetime of supervised release and registration as a sex offender.

Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252 (a)(1) and (b)(1) (Transportation of Visual Depiction of Minors Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct) - Maximum Penalties: A minimum mandatory 5 years in custody and a maximum of 20 years in custody and a minimum of five years and up to a lifetime of supervised release.

## **AGENCIES**

San Diego Police Department  
Immigration and Customs Enforcement

**A indictment is not evidence that the defendant committed the crimes charged. The defendant is presumed innocent until the Government meets its burden in court of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.**